

**South Carolina Women of the ELCA
Board Meeting Minutes
Friday, September 23, 2022
Saturday, September 24, 2022
Myrtle Beach, SC**

Present:

Officers:

President: Risse Snelgrove

Vice President: Amanda Boatwright

Secretary: Shari Donley

Treasurer: Virginia Herlong

Board:

Christie Gardner

Karen Freeman

Cindy McManus

Linda Roland

Diane Wicker

Absent: Denise Warren, Joy Derrick, LaTynia Taylor

Friday, September 23, 2022

Breakfast was served and enjoyed by all.

Morning Devotion: by Diane Wicker

The business meeting was called to order at 9:12A by President Risse Snelgrove.

Report of the Secretary:

Minutes Approval: Karen Freeman moved and Amanda Boatwright second to approve the June 23, 2022 Board minutes. Motion carried.

Correspondence

- Shari D. read a letter from Newberry College of a gift that was made to the SCWELCA Nursing Scholarship Fund by Mr. Jim Hale.
- Shari D. read a thank you note from Risse Snelgrove for flowers sent for her sister's funeral.
- Shari D. read a thank you note from Sarah Cheesman for the "faith" bracelet.

Treasurer Report - Virginia (Refer to Google Docs)

Bank statements as of 7/13/2022 showed a bank balance of \$8,443.07. Cash available was \$3,973.94. As of 7/13/2022 the 2 -year Mission Investment Fund CD had \$15,000. The RESTRICTED FUND – Edna Corley Estate fund as of 7/13/2022 had a balance of #30,630.71. The August financial statement was discussed. The reports were received as information.

Virginia H. presented a review of the 2022 convention expenses. Virginia H. reminded the Board that the Stewardship committee is the Finance committee. Each mission committee chair is on the Finance committee.

President's Report – Risse Snelgrove (Refer to Google Docs)

Risse S. presented her report as information. Highlights are attending a brain storming session for Katie's Fund Grant on Leadership training; Theology; and Global Outreach. Risse S. attended the Region 9 President's conference call in August and shared items of discussion. A draft of the updated WELCA handbook was discussed. The script for the conference gatherings greeting (done by Diane Wicker) was reviewed and discussed.

This is a list of the President activities since the last Board meeting:

July

- Created Board Contact List for 2022-2023
- Made Board Assignments for 2022-2023
- Assigned Conference Liaisons for 2022-2023
- Attended brainstorming session for Katie's Fund Grant (Leadership Training, Theology, Global Outreach)
 - Leadership Training
 - Tea for Young Women Guest
 - Gather Magazine Subscriptions as gifts to Young Women in Churches
 - Companion synod member to Triennial Convention and Gathering
 - Seed Grant for each new unit
 - Female Pastor Retreat
 - FI/Bahamas supporting a day care for children in poverty in Cuba
 - Help Establish New Units in Spanish Congregations associated with ELCA
 - Google Drive Training
 - Seed money to raise more for a larger project
 - Help Establish a special unit for college students
 - Establish a special unit for ladies in assisted living
 - Create CWO, SWO, Conference and Unit leadership guidebook use money to copy handbooks or training on the handbooks

August

- Attended St. John's Women of the ELCA Unit Meeting
 - Program was on Starlight Program in Tamassee, SC
 - Attended Region 9 President's conference call
 - Only two presidents present along with Linda B and Joy M
 - NC President stated that they are struggling to get people to serve in leadership roles. Units aging out with no future in sight. Hosting Online Events and Bible Studies. Board Members not wanting to try new things
 - Re-typing and updating WELCA Handbooks to place on our website
 - Meeting with Virginia regarding handbook ideas
 - Accepted Invitation to attend St. John's Lutheran Church in Spartanburg Unit Re-vitalizing meeting
 - Working with St. Stephen's Lutheran Church in Lexington, SC to re-vitalize their congregational Unit

VP Report – Amanda Boatwright

Amanda highlighted some of the items relating to the convention:

- A synopsis of the convention evaluations was reviewed and discussed.
- Amanda B. presented a recommendation from the convention committee and the Board present approved to adopt the following for the 2023 convention:
 - Convention Theme to be Just Love One Another
 - Convention Bible verse to be John 15:12
 - Convention Hymn to be "Love Lifted Me"
- Two logos for the 2023 convention were reviewed. There were two votes for Logo #1 and seven votes for Logo #2.
- Amanda B. introduce the Convention Planning Committee consisting of Amanda Boatwright as Chair, Christie Gardner as Co-Chair, Linda Boatwright and Denise Caulder.
- The convention will be held on June 23rd and 24th, 2023 at the Zion Lutheran Church in Lexington, SC.
- Amanda B. distributed a Convention staff handout which was reviewed.

- Amanda B. presented a recommendation from the committee for the Banquet entertainment to be two Christian comedians Austin and Leb. Board present voted with eight Yeas and one abstention.
- Amanda B. reported that the hotel will be the Hampton Inn for \$139 per night however she needs to wait until after November to lock in the price before the Board can approve.
- Amanda B. presented a recommendation from the committee to have Shealy's cater to banquet. Board present approved. A second part of the recommendation was to have Duprees cater the luncheons. Board present approved.
- Amanda B. reported that Zion is willing to print the Bulletin of Reports (BOR) for \$8. The Board recommended that the BOR be made part of the registration.
- Amanda B. presented a recommendation from the committee to charge \$14.00 for each of the two lunches (\$28) and \$22.00 for the banquet for a total of \$48.00, After discussion by the Board present Risse Snelgrove moved and Diane Wicker second to charge \$15.00 for each of the two lunches and \$25.00 for the banquet for a total of \$55.00. Vote was eight yeas and one no. Motion carried.
- The cost of registration to include a printed BOR was discussed. Diane Wicker moved and Christie Gardner second to approve \$50 (\$55 for late registration) for voting members and \$35 (\$40 for late registration) for visitors. The vote was nine yeas, Motion carried.
- The Saxe Gotha conference has 11 churches and will provide the conference bags, contents, etc.
- Christie G. reports that at this time the workshops will include:
 - Two sessions by Thrivent
 - CWO to present how to revitalize a conference unit
 - A craft by Trinia Floyd
 - A Bible study by the Chaplain
 - A Zumba workshop
 - A Health workshop
 - A possible session on Sex Trafficking
- SCWELCA T-shirts to sell at the convention was discussed.
- Christie G. moved and Cindy McManus second to sell the t-shirts for \$15 and to sell totes for \$10 at the convention. These two items will be added to the registration form to allow for pre-ordering. The vote was nine yea's. Motion carried.
- Virginia H. suggested to have a separate registration form for the convention staff and volunteers. The committee will take the suggestion under advisement.

Lunch was served and enjoyed by all.

The business meeting resumed at 12:20PM.

Mission Growth Report:

Amanda B. reported on behalf of Denise Caulder that Good Gifts are available on the website and asked that it be used for the Joy Offering. The Camp Kinard Retreat is being planned. Rev. Lisa Isenhower will do a Bible Study.

Mission Community Report:

Per Linda Roland this report will be deferred to the following day.

Mission Action Report:

Karen Freeman reported that our Global project will be to collect monies to purchase beds for the Tanzania Girls School. The local project will be to support Destiny's Action. Camp Kinard has asked to replace the comforters in the cottages. Karen F. will get more information on exactly what they are asking for.

There was additional conversation on hygiene kits, layettes, and quilts for Tanzania. There was discussion on feminine hygiene kits with reusable hygiene pads.

There is \$1,000.00 available to be used before September, 2023.

There was a final discussion of Denmark, SC on the toxic water issue. Residents cannot cook or drink the water. It was discussed to purchase Brita like filters so the residents can have drinking water.

Communication Committee Report:

Cindy McManus reported that the last mailing of the *RIPPLE* included 251 hard copies. Two were returned due to bad addresses. The cost of printing and mailing the *Ripple* has increased from \$7 to \$9. Cindy has sent 29 letters to those members whose subscriptions had expired and has since received 40 subscriptions.

Cindy M. is working with other church members to enhance the website. In June Cindy M. sent letters to female pastors on training materials. A Forms sub-page was added under Publications. An OutReach sub-page was added with the Newberry Nursing Scholarship donation form.

Cindy M. is working on on-line giving through Tithes.com. The cost is 2.9% + .30 for each transaction.

Cindy M. asked the Board present to publicize the website at the conference gatherings.

Cindy M. reported that Facebook postings are increasing and she is working to get more exposure via this social media.

Conference Coordinator Report:

Diane Wicker reported that each of the conference coordinators have been contacted via email. Scheduled conference gatherings are being tracked.

Meeting business meeting adjourned at 2:37PM. The remainder of the afternoon was used for Google Docs training and free time.

Dinner was served and enjoyed by all.

Evening Devotion: by Diane Wicker

The remainder of the evening was devoted to Sharing Time.

Saturday, September 24, 2022

Breakfast was served and enjoyed by all.

Morning Devotion: by Diane Wicker

Mission Areas Planning time was executed for each group to do their respective planning for the coming year

At 11:05AM Risse S. shared a Hands Exercise about God's hands and what we can do to serve God.

The business meeting was called to order at 11:40AM by President Risse Snelgrove.

Old Business:

SCWELCA has \$2400 to spend on the Triennial Gathering to be held in 2023 in Phoenix, Arizona. Diane Wicker moved and Virginia Herlong second to allot \$400 of the \$2400 for registration and materials for the Triennial Gathering Promoter Linda Griffith. Then the remainder of the \$2000 to be

used for ten (10) \$200 stipends to attendees of the Gathering. There will be a form to fill out and the monies will be disbursed on a first come, first serve basis. Motion carried.

Long Range Planning Committee was suggested and approved by the Board present. Risse S. will appoint the members. Risse appointed Cindy McManus, Amanda Boatwright and Christie Gardner to serve as the committee and to report back at the next Board meeting.

Lunch was served and enjoyed by all.

New Business:

Resolution regarding the CWO Survey was discussed. Consensus of the Board present was to have the Mission Community Committee to work this issue.

Each Mission Area reported their four goals. The Growth group present were of Cindy McManus and Christie Gardner and will email their goals to the Board. Denise Warren will serve as chair of this committee. The Community group present were Linda Roland (chair), Risse Snelgrove and Diane Wicker and their four goals were presented. The Mission Action group present were Karen Freeman (Chair), Shari Donley and Amanda Boatwright. Their four goals were presented. The Board approved the two recommendations for 2023 Convention Projects to be collect monies to give to Camp Kinard for purchasing new comforters and to provide hygiene kits for Tanzania. A description of these projects will be forwarded to Christie G. to be used for a convention form.

There was a Katie's Fund Brainstorm session for the \$1000 that was available and needed to be spent before September, 2023. There are three categories to be addressed: 1. Leadership Training, 2. Theology (faith in daily life) and 3. Global Impact. The Board present came to consensus on six suggestions:

1. Leadership Training
2. Seminary Debt Relief
3. Start a Lutheran group at a college
4. Outreach to Spanish congregations
5. Donate to the Soap project
6. Do a Good Gifts purchase

The group is to start planning for the next meeting using the CAP acronym. C is Communicate and Connect. A is get Active again. P is Proud of who we are.

Handbook completion – The Board present reviewed online the Northwestern Minnesota handbook that was in a non-SALT format. Also reviewed was the Kentucky handbook which was in SALT format. SALT is an acronym for Synodical Advanced Leadership Training. The draft of the SCWELCA handbook was reviewed.

There was discussion on the archiving of the SCWELCA documents with the current vendor. Cost of \$200 per box if less than 15 boxes was shared with the group. Virginia Herlong moved and Diane Wicker second to give the SC Synod \$500 from the Benevolence Fund to cover the storage expense at Region 9 Archives. Discussion ensued. Diane W. moved and Christie G. second to call the question and end discussion. Motion carried. The original motion was voted on and carried.

A conference unit handbook was discussed to be finalized and deployed before conference and/or Spring meetings.

Training Session:

Christie Gardner reviewed the CWO model constitution and By-Laws. Christie also reviewed the current SCWELCA constitution, By-Laws and Standing Rules.

Outstanding 2023 Convention Issue:

The Convention Committee recommends using the Hampton Inn in Lexington, SC for no more than \$139 per night. Recommendation approved.

The business meeting adjourned at 6:07PM.

Dinner was served and enjoyed by all.

Evening Devotion: by Diane Wicker

The business meeting reconvened at 7:42PM.

Discussion was held on the Honorary Life & Memorial Recognition program form. Diane Wicker moved and Virginia Herlong second to make the following changes to the form:

1. Under Honorary remove "in your congregation" and replace with 'your community'.
2. Under Memorial remove "or your church" and replace with 'your community'.

Wrap-Up:

The next Board meeting will be on February 24, 2023.

Diane Wicker moved and Virginia Herlong second to adjourn. Motion carried.

The business meeting adjourned at 7:48PM.

Sunday, September 25, 2022

Breakfast was served and enjoyed by all.

Morning Devotion: by Diane Wicker

The Board members present disbursed to attend church service at local Lutheran churches.

Respectfully Submitted,
Shari Donley,
SCWELCA Secretary